

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5679

To provide that a State may use a proportional voting system for multiseat congressional districts.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 15, 2000

Ms. MCKINNEY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To provide that a State may use a proportional voting system for multiseat congressional districts.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may cited as the “Voters’ Choice Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. MULTISEAT DISTRICTS PERMITTED FOR ELECTION**
6 **OF REPRESENTATIVES FOR STATES WITH A**
7 **PROPORTIONAL VOTING SYSTEM.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding the Act entitled
9 “An Act for the relief of Doctor Ricardo Vallejo Samala
10 and to provide for congressional redistricting”, approved

1 December 14, 1967 (Public Law 90–196; 2 U.S.C. 2c),
2 a State that is entitled to more than one Representative
3 in Congress may establish a number of districts for elec-
4 tion of Representatives that is less than the number of
5 Representatives to which the State is entitled, if and only
6 if, that State uses a system that meets the following condi-
7 tions:

8 (1) It meets the constitutional standard of ma-
9 jority rule and of individuals having equal voting
10 power.

11 (2) It ensures the election of any candidate who
12 receives a share of votes cast that is at least one
13 vote greater than one-third of the total votes cast in
14 the multiseat district.

15 (b) NO RESTRICTION ON SELECTION.—A State is not
16 restricted to selecting systems that require candidates to
17 obtain at least one vote more than one-third of the elec-
18 torate in order to be elected. As long as the conditions
19 specified in subsection (a) are met, a State may use sys-
20 tems that allow a smaller group of voters to elect Rep-
21 resentatives.

22 (c) EQUALITY REQUIREMENT.—In a State that uses
23 multiseat districts, the number of residents per Represent-
24 ative in a district shall be equal for all Representatives
25 elected.

1 (d) ONE-SEAT DISTRICTS ALLOWED.—A State may
2 use one-seat districts alone or in combination with
3 multiseat districts.

4 **SEC. 3. RELATION TO VOTING RIGHTS ACT OF 1965.**

5 The rights and remedies established by this Act are
6 in addition to all other rights and remedies provided by
7 law, and the rights and remedies established by this Act
8 shall not supersede, restrict, or limit the application of the
9 Voting Rights Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 1973 et seq.). Noth-
10 ing in this Act authorizes or requires conduct that is pro-
11 hibited by the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 1973
12 et seq.).

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